

## Seranaya Expedition.

(Supplemental to data contained in old Itinerary.)

March 9, 1904. — At 6 A.M. one company was sent out in command of Captain Robert Q. Van Horn, Seventeenth Infantry, <sup>Accompanied by</sup> Private Darrah, Hospital Corps. Object, to bring up a heavier gun from Cotabato for shelling the Moro fort.

March 10, 1904. — Captain Van Horn's company arrived early in the forenoon with a 3.2-inch gun, which was immediately put in action. Lieutenant McKenney's pedometer registered  $7\frac{1}{4}$  miles between Kudarangan and Barak.

Shelled the Moro works all day and evening. Two companies (Allaire's and Devore's), under Major Charles M. Truitt, made a reconnaissance on the Moro right to within 500 yards of Ali's fort, accompanied by Dr. Brownlee with Hospital Corps men.

March 11, 1904. — Major Truitt's battalion, with Captains Allaire, Devore, and Chrisman, started at 5 A.M. to make an attack on the Moro right; but white flags went up in the Seranaya fort as soon as the artillery firing from Gately's battery was recommenced. Then the entire command was moved into the fort, which was found to be deserted. The temporary houses were burned. The fort, which is the greatest military work ever

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~~Sanago~~ <sup>Sanago</sup> ~~expedition~~ constructed by natives of the Philippine Islands, was dismantled, the guns and arms destroyed (blown up with their own powder), and became the base of operations against the scattered Moros.

When I first viewed the fort from within, I counted 56 mounted guns and 59 ~~empty~~<sup>that were empty</sup> embrasures, or with gun carriages from which the guns had been dismounted. Nearly all of the guns were subsequently found in the moats surrounding the fort or buried in the ground. I counted, at first, the following: 34 Brass Lantasses or bronze cannons.

1 B C and all

1 Brass Cannon - 2 moh. cal.

7 Iron " -3 " "

9 " " - 5 " "

4 " " -2 " "

The iron cannons were exploded with Moro black powder. Many of the lantakas were removed to the ships and carried to Zamboanga.

A plan of the fort was made, and the tracing from which blue prints can be made is on file at the Headquarters of the Department of Mindanao, in Zamboanga.

March 12, 1904. — The country, consisting of broad  
cigonals extending between Seranaya and Tabas,  
is a moist prairie similar to those of Florida north  
of Lake Okeechobee along the Sibungan River and smaller  
streams, <sup>strewn</sup> ~~strewn~~ with heavy timber which is continuous on <sup>the</sup> all-

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March 14, 1904.—Steamed down the Rio Grande from the mouth of the estero which drains the Seranaya Marsh. The grass islands floating down the Rio Grande were sometimes of an area equal to 150 feet square. One island contained 3 black house cats. We sent a native boat to rescue them before they drifted to sea out of the rivermouth; but the cats were so wild that they plunged into the river and swam, though they were caught and cared for by the Moros.

Left the mouth of the estero about the middle of the forenoon. Crocodile feeders—a sort of boom—were noted in front of each Moro boatlanding and place where the Moros <sup>bathe</sup> wash their clothing. A crocodile 15 feet long was shot near Datto Piang's place. Piang's irrigation canal, on the right bank, is a large, swift stream of water and driftage. The water comes out with a rush, bearing a heavy burden of water cabbage, grass islands, and other driftage. Many cotton trees and hedges of largeflower locust. A captive chino slave dealer <sup>with 2 pretty Moro maidens</sup> was taken aboard. Below Piang we passed Datto Djimbangan's market,

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at the mouth of the Libungan River, with its  
Clock house and detachment of American soldiers.  
Passed Bulibud, belonging to the Princessa,  
on the left bank of the Rio Grande at 1:35 P.M.  
Passed the Sultana's place at 1:45 P.M. Left  
Cotabato for Zamboanga about 3 P.M. and  
finished the river by daylight.

March 15, 1904. - Reached Zamboanga at 9 A.M.